

## **Bar collapse chasing 123**

Abbots Langley 123 all out – Potters Bar 2X1 103 all out

Potters Bar 2<sup>nd</sup> X1 bowled and fielded excellent on Saturday away to Abbots Langley 1<sup>st</sup> X1, however a dismal batting performance chasing just 123 led to defeat. Having won the toss and asked Abbots to bat first, Bar bowled accurately with captain Hodge and Michael John restricting scoring opportunities. Abbots openers battled hard and the first wicket fell with the score on 39 when opener Cox was caught for 20 off the bowling of John. Fellow opener Smith was run out excellently for 17 soon after by Ian Henderson as bar started to get on top.

On a slow wicket Hodge decided to use off spinners Dean Dass and Luke Owers in tandem, both bowled economically and frustrated the batsman. Scoring opportunities were extremely limited and wickets fell on a regular basis. Only Abbots's captain Carlisle showed any resistance, he scored 37 and was the only batsman other than the openers to reach double figures. 16 year old Luke Owers bowled with great maturity, picking up figures of 4-21 off 12 overs as Abbots slumped to 123 all out.

In reply Bar were confident of victory, Dave Pett and Matt Evans started well, however once Pett was bowled by a ball that cut back from Dunstone, Bar showed little resistance. Wickets fell quickly as batsman played careless shots and failed to get behind the ball. At 42-6 Dass joined opener Evans and the pair managed progress the score to 62, Evans was then bowled for 35 and the game looked out of Bar's reach. Captain Hodge joined Dass at the crease as Bar's chances looked numbered, the two of them managed to put on the highest partnership of the match lifting Bar to 103-7. With the game now looking within Bar's grasp, Dass holed out to deep mid-wicket. Tail enders Brown and John fell in quick succession, as Bar contrived to lose a game they should have won easily.

Next week Bar face Old Albanian's at the Walk, a better batting display will be needed if the side are going to move up the table, they will be assisted by the return Indian youngster Ajitya Mehta, who was the sides top run scorer in the league last season.